

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Peter James Sutherland Goldsack, et al.
 Serial No.: Not yet assigned)
 Filed: Concurrently herewith) Our Ref: B-4199 618841-6
 For: "BLOCK ERROR RATE)
 MEASUREMENTS") Date: June 5, 2001

U.S. PAT. & TM. OFF.
 JUN 5 2001
 09/87515

CLAIM TO PRIORITY UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
 Box New Patent Application
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

[X] Applicants hereby make a right of priority claim under 35 U.S.C. 119 for the benefit of the filing date(s) of the following corresponding foreign application(s):

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>	<u>SERIAL NUMBER</u>
United Kingdom	7 June 2000	0013746.3
EPO (European Patent Office)	18 December 2000	00311334.7

[] A certified copy of each of the above-noted patent applications was filed with the Parent Application No. _____.

[X] To support applicant's claim, certified copies of the above-identified foreign patent applications are enclosed herewith.

[] The priority document will be forwarded to the Patent Office when required or prior to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard P. Berg
 Richard P. Berg
 Attorney for Applicant
 Reg. No. 28,145

LADAS & PARRY
 5670 Wilshire Boulevard
 Suite 2100
 Los Angeles, CA 90036
 Telephone: (323) 934-2300
 Telefax: (323) 934-0202



EL 89663484305



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

The Patent Office
Concept House
Cardiff Road
Newport
South Wales
NP10 8QQ



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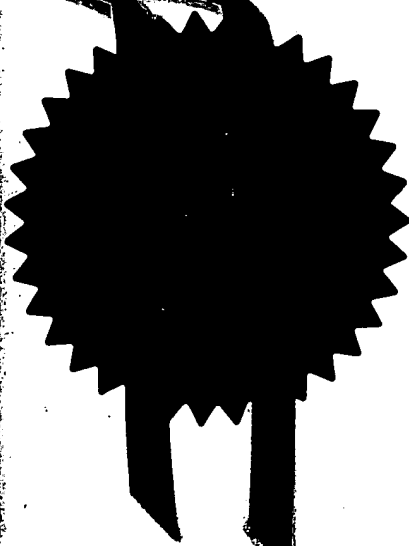
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15 NOV 2000



07 JUN 2000

07JUN00 E542757-1 D10064
P01/7700 0.00-0013746.3

Request for grant of a patent

(See the notes on the back of this form. You can also get an explanatory leaflet from the Patent Office to help you fill in this form)

The Patent Office

Cardiff Road
Newport
South Wales
NP9 1RH

1. Your reference 30003829 GB01

2. Patent application number
(The Patent Office will fill in this part)

0013746.3

07 JUN 2000

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames)

Agilent Technologies, Inc
395 Page Mill Road, PO Box 10395
Palo Alto
CA 94303-0870, USA

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

7771868001

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

Delaware

4. Title of the invention

GPRS BLER Measurements

5. Name of your agent (if you have one)

"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent (including the postcode)

David G. Coker
Agilent Technologies UK Ltd, Legal Dept
Eskdale Road, Winnersh Triangle
Wokingham
Berkshire RG41 5DZ

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

5678826005

6. If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (if you know it) the or each application number

Country

Priority application number
(if you know it)

Date of filing
(day / month / year)

7. If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application, give the number and the filing date of the earlier application

Number of earlier application

Date of filing
(day / month / year)

8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request? (Answer 'Yes' if:

- a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or
- b) there is an inventor who is not named as an applicant, or
- c) any named applicant is a corporate body.

See note (d))

Yes

9. Enter the number of sheets for any of the following items you are filing with this form. Do not count copies of the same document

Continuation sheets of this form

Description

Claim(s)

Abstract

Drawing(s)

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10. If you are also filing any of the following, state how many against each item.

Priority documents

Translations of priority documents

Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a patent (Patents Form 7/77)

Request for preliminary examination and search (Patents Form 9/77)

Request for substantive examination (Patents Form 10/77)

Any other documents (please specify)

11.

I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.

Signature

David G. Coker

Date

5/6/2000

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom

Pauline Jones, 0118-927-4423

Warning

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Notes

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GPRS BLER Measurements

[30003829]

5 This invention relates to general packet radio service (GPRS) block error rate (BLER) measurements.

10 The recent ETSI change request to GSM 04.14 (ETSI Document 2-00-1004) and the accompanying liaison statement response (ETSI Document 2-00-1007) have made significant changes to the general packet radio service (GPRS) test modes. As a consequence of these proceedings, there are some changes to the handling of the downlink temporary block flow (TBF) which preclude the making of block error rate (BLER) measurements within the test mode.

15 Since the ETSI Test Modes normally require only a GPRS mobility management service access point (GMM SAP) above the logical link control (LLC) layer, it is desirable to avoid making a full data connection, by adding a sub-network dependent convergence protocol (SNDCP) SAP and higher layers, just to make BLER measurements.

20 We therefore propose to make use of a constant stream of messages sent to the GMM SAP of the mobile station (MS) to open and maintain a radio link control (RLC) acknowledged mode downlink TBF. This method would be consistent with the ETSI standards, and would enable BLER measurements to be made simply by polling for packet ack/nack messages; the content of the ack/nack messages indicates whether the messages in the stream have been correctly transported. There would be no need to implement any further protocol layers.

25 An appropriate GMM message for this purpose is the GMM_INFORMATION message. The GMM Information procedure is described in GSM 04.08 section 4.7.12. Briefly, the network may send any number of GMM_INFORMATION messages at any time. The MS shall accept the GMM_INFORMATION message, and optionally use the information contained there-in to update internal information stored within the MS.

30 Each information element of the GMM_INFORMATION message (other than the header itself) is optional. Therefore it is proposed that no information elements actually be supplied. In this case, the expected MS behaviour is simply to ignore the GMM_INFORMATION messages. This should present a very low overhead to the MS, while still enabling an acknowledged RLC mode downlink TBF to be maintained.

CLAIMS

[30003829]

1. A method of making block error rate measurements in a layered protocol communications system, comprising the steps of:
 - 5 opening and maintaining an information block flow by sending repeated message blocks which are defined at a layer in the protocol stack below the topmost layer; and
 - monitoring ack/nack messages sent in response to the message blocks to determine whether the message blocks have been correctly transported.